FBIS DAILY REPORT CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 158 *15 August 1978*

ARGENTINA

Paper Holds Criminals Responsible for Rights Violations [LA NACION 11 Aug] B 1 **1/A6**
Briefs: Spanish Monarch To Visit B 1 **1/A6**

BOLIVIA

Radio, Press Workers Call Off Strike C 1 **1/A7**
Two More Dynamite Attacks Reported in Cochabamba C 1 **1/A7**
UMSA Teachers, Students, Administrators Threaten Hunger Strike C 1 **1/A7**

BRAZIL

Figueiredo Backs President Geisel's Constitutional Amendments [O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 12 Aug] D 1 **1/A8**
Foreign Debt Up 25 Percent Over Last Year [JORNAL DO BRASIL 11 Aug] D 1 **1/A8**
Geisel To Meet With President Stroessner in October D 1 **1/A8**

CHILE

Details of Debts to Socialist Countries Published [EL MERCURIO 9 Aug] E 1 **1/A9**
Briefs: Israeli Finance Minister's Visit E 2 **1/A10**

COLOMBIA

EL ESPECTADOR Publishes Brezhnev Letter to Turbay [10 Aug] F 1 **1/A11**
FARC Kills Peasant Informers, Sports Fans F 1 **1/A11**

ECUADOR

Politicians Comment on Poveda's Promise To Reestablish Democracy G 1 **1/A12**
Further Comments G 2 **1/A13**

PARAGUAY

Domingo Laino's Party Issues Communique [HOY 11 Aug] H 1 **1/A14**
Emboscada Political Prisoners Begin Hunger Strike [HOY 12 Aug] H 2 **1/B1**
Christian Democrats Issue National Reorganization Proposals [ABC COLOR 12 Aug] H 2 **1/B1**
Visiting Argentine Group Has No Comment on Tripartite Talks [ABC COLOR 14 Aug] H 3 **1/B2**

PERU

Government Revamps Budget To Cut Expenditures J 1 **1/B3**
Reorganizes Public Spending J 2 **1/B4**
Promises No More 'Packages' J 2 **1/B4**

VENEZUELA

Acting Defense Minister Comments on Arms Purchases [EL UNIVERSAL 11 Aug] L 1 1/B5
New Army Division Established in Southern Region L 2 1/B6
Energy Minister Denies Reports of Special OPEC Meeting L 2 1/B6
President Perez Defends Agriculture Policy L 2 1/B6
Finance Minister Sees Favorable Economic Situation L 3 1/B7
Number of Presidential Candidates Reduced to 10 L 3 1/B7
Israeli Labor Leader Arrives for 4-Day Visit L 3 1/B7

MEXICO

PRI Assembly Redefines Party Platform M 1 1/B8
Briefs: Repayment of Foreign Financing M 1 1/B8

PANAMA

MATUTINO Asks Tribunal To Annul Elections [14 Aug] N 1 1/B9
Torrijos Sends Message Against Racism to UN Conference N 1 1/B9
Text of Message Published [LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA 14 Aug] N 2 1/B10
Spain's Gonzalez To Accompany Torrijos to Dominican Republic N 2 1/B10

CENTRAL AMERICA

BELIZE

Nonalined Conference Results Called Victory on Border Issue [BELIZE TIMES 6 Aug] P 1 1/B11

COSTA RICA

Launch Taken Into Custody for Illegal Fishing P 2 1/B12
President Concerned About U.S. Meat Import Quotas P 2 1/B12
Officials To Attend Dominican Inauguration Announced P 2 1/B12

EL SALVADOR

Manager of Swedish Telephone Company Kidnaped P 3 1/B13

NICARAGUA

NOVEDADES Has Kind Words for Episcopal Conference [6 Aug] P 3 1/B13
Government Closes Radio Station for Two Months P 4 1/B14
Student-Military Clash Occurs in Managua P 4 1/B14
Construction Work Stoppage, Group of 12 Rally Reported P 4 1/B14
U.S. Ambassador's Absence From Official Event Noted P 5 1/C1

BRIEFS

Costa Rican Financing Council; Costa Rican Ambassadors Appointed; Salvadoran Trade With Mexico P 5 1/C1

CUBA

U.S. Favoritism Toward Israel Seen in Camp David Summit Q 1 1/C2

OTHER COUNTRIES

BARBADOS

Delegation to Cuba Festival Judges It 'Great Experience' V 1 1/C3
[ADVOCATE-NEWS 10 Aug]

DOMINICA

Opposition Concerned Over Provision in Constitution V 1 1/C3
[Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS 11 Aug]

GUYANA

Cheddi Jagan Calls Government 'Semidictatorship' V 3 1/C5
[Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS 11 Aug]

Item 856-B-5 PrEx 7.10: FBIS-LAT-78-158

FBIS-LAT-78-158
Tuesday
15 August 1978
Vol VI No 158

DAILY REPORT

COMPLETED
ORIGINAL

LATIN AMERICA

Available for Distribution
From NTIS

FBIS FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

This publication contains current news and commentary monitored by FBIS from foreign broadcasts, news agency transmissions, newspapers, and periodicals. Items are processed from the first or best available source; it should not be inferred that they have been disseminated only in the medium, in the language, or to the area indicated. Items from foreign-language sources are translated by FBIS. Those from English-language sources are transcribed, with the original phrasing and other characteristics retained.

Headlines, editorial reports, and material enclosed in brackets [ ] are supplied by FBIS. Labels such as [Text] or [Excerpts] in the first line of each item indicate how FBIS processed the information from the original. Names rendered phonetically or in transliteration are enclosed in parentheses. Words or names preceded by a question mark and enclosed in parentheses were not clearly heard but have been supplied as appropriate to the context. Other unattributed parenthetical notes within the body of an item originate with the source. Times within items are as given by the source.

Users of this publication may cite FBIS provided they do so in a manner clearly identifying it as the secondary source. For example: "FBIS reports that Radio Moscow announced . . ." or "FBIS has monitored a broadcast from Hanoi which says . . ."

This is a U.S. Government publication. Its contents in no way represent the policies, views, or attitudes of the U.S. Government.

PAPER HOLDS CRIMINALS RESPONSIBLE FOR RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

PY150153Y Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 11 Aug 78 p 8 PY

[Editorial: "A Matter of Foreign Policy"]

[Excerpts] The current Argentine situation with regard to some of its traditional friends, particularly the United States, should be studied from the fundamental premise that a foreign policy must be intelligently thought out. The first thing this premise must consider is the premanent interests of the country.

If this point is made clear, it reduces the risk of losing calmness, of subordinating the course of a policy to temporary matters and making mistakes which take a long time to repair when they damage the real basis on which a country's foreign policy must always be based.

Relations between Argentina and the United States are going through difficult times. Relations with some friendly European countries with which we are linked by history are also not as good as we would like them to be.

We know that communications between the United States and Argentina will be affected for some time by considerable obstacles. Therefore, no one should feel desperate about finding immediate solutions, as time will finally solve them. But something should be done and the logical procedure to prevent the current gap from expanding is that everyone should try to understand the basis of the problem. This should be done to the benefit of the permanent interests of the two countries.

The U.S. policy on human rights is being carried out on a worldwide basis with all the dangers of generalization. This policy was born during the last Republican administration--toward the end of 1975--as a result of the Helsinki agreements. These agreements consolidated the borders which emerged in Europe as a result of World War II, but demanded that the USSR and its satellites be more considerate of human rights in their area. Then, with the Carter administration, this policy became energetic.

Any Argentine who loves freedom and justice cannot disagree with the essence of a policy that enforces human rights. We also cannot disagree with the fact that this policy aims to give validity to the superior principle that man is above all. If this were not so, what were we doing when we opposed racial, religious and political persecution wherever it happened? Or at one time did we believe that we did not have the right to protest, for example, the persecution of Jews in Nazi Germany and in the USSR? Only totalitarian regimes by nature can feel hurt when accused of violating human rights. In our case, however, what we protest is not a policy, but the use being made by circumstantial dominant official groups in the United States who attack our country--that is, who attack us and forget that we have fought a nonconventional war, but a war just the same; that the intensity of this war was greater in our country than in others; and that if for any reason some rights were violated, those mainly responsible were the criminals who have found protection in that Western capitals, and not only in the countries that have been encouraging subversion for a long time such as Algeria, Libya, South Yemen, etc.

BRIEFS

SPANISH MONARCH TO VISIT--The Argentine Foreign Ministry has reported that King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia of Spain will pay an official visit to Argentina during the second half of November. However, Prime Minister Adolfo Suarez' visit, which was planned for the first week of September, will be postponed. [Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 14 Aug 78 PY]

RADIO, PRESS WORKERS CALL OFF STRIKE

PY141752Y La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 14 Aug 78 PY

[Excerpt] The strike by radio and press workers which was scheduled for tomorrow has been suspended in view of an agreement signed by Interior Minister Faustino Rico Toro and representatives of both labor sectors. The Bolivian Federation of Newspaper Workers [FTPB] and the Federation of Radio and Television Workers had called a 24-hour strike to protest the repeated abuses against newsmen and radio announcers. The document, which was signed by authorities of the government and the armed forces and issued yesterday, reasserts the authorities' intention of not allowing any more abuses against press and radio workers by subordinate military officers. In addition, they affirm that press and radio workers will be guaranteed freedom to carry out their activities, especially in mining districts. The authorities also promised to make efforts to achieve fair treatment for communications media workers when they present demands relating to union matters.

TWO MORE DYNAMITE ATTACKS REPORTED IN COCHABAMBA

PY121428Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1354 GMT 12 Aug 78 PY

[Text] Cochabamba, 12 Aug--Two more dynamite attacks occurred in this city early today, police announced. In less than 24 hours there have been four dynamite attacks in this city which resulted in property damage. The targets of the bombings were the residences of officialist political leaders in the fashionable Cala-Cala neighborhood. There were no casualties. Cochabamba is 400 km southeast of La Paz.

UMSA TEACHERS, STUDENTS, ADMINISTRATORS THREATEN HUNGER STRIKE

PY121941Y La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 12 Aug 78 PY

[Text] If the Greater University of San Andres[UMSA] is not reopened within the next few hours, the Supreme University Council, composed of students, teachers and administrative personnel, will stage a hunger strike. This extreme measure of pressure will begin on Monday, 14 August.

At a press conference, called today at the premises of the newsmen's association, Lic (Fernando Cajias), a member of the Supreme University Council, expressed his amazement over the decision of the National Council of Higher Education (CNES) prohibiting the reopening of only the UMSA and the peremptory CNES appointment of UMSA officials, flagrantly violating the democratization process of the universities, and then announced the strike decision. [Begin (Cajias) recording] [passage indistinct] We do not find any valid reasons for this discrimination against the La Paz university. In the second place, there is the [words indistinct] against the legitimate officials whom we recognize. As is well known, not even the university law, on which the CNES bases its decision, gives the CNES a right to appoint and dismiss rectors. If such measures have been taken earlier it is because of a de facto situation and the existence of a decree dated 4 November 1974. But, as you know, the law establishes that only the first rector should be appointed by the CNES, the rest being elected by the universities. So the argument that it is CNES which appoints [words indistinct] it is not CNES but the University Council which has a right to appoint. [end recording]

As you have heard, the University Council does not recognize the authority of the officials appointed by the CNES. The University Council therefore calls a striek, since there is no valid reason for the discriminatory closing of the UMSA and the arbitrary appointment of its officials. [Begin (Cajias) recording] [passage indistinct] We have therefore declared a hunger strike, and if the university is not opened on Monday, 14 August, we will begin gradually to go on hunger strike, until the conflict is solved. [Words indistinct] [end recording]

FIGUEIREDO BACKS PRESIDENT GEISEL'S CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

PY142027Y Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 12 Aug 78 p 4 PY

[Speech by Gen Joao Baptista de Figueiredo on 11 August 1978 at Sao Bento Monastery on anniversary of Brazil's first law school]

[Excerpt] Brazil is now undergoing an important and critical moment in its history as a republic, a fruitful moment of transition. The constitutional amendments presented to Congress by President Ernesto Geisel represent the beginning of the reinstatement of the legal system to which the revolution is faithfully committed. With these amendments we are resuming the process begun by Castello Branco with the constitution of 1967. Any legal regime is a compromise through which society, unable to solve all its conflicts, hopes and anxieties, tries to reconcile them within the limits of man-made institutions, which are imperfect by definition.

I believe that the evolution of law is a continuing and unceasing process, just like the evolution of society itself and of the state which represents it. However, the institutions of law--in addition to representing conciliations possible at the time--are long-lasting as long as they are based on respect for certain principles, such as, in our case, the Christian and democratic concept of society. It is those goals of law and those principles which President Geisel's reforms are intended to reinstate. With them, the revolution heeds, fulfills and embodies its first designs. At the same time, and as much as is possible right now, it seeks to establish the conditions necessary for Brazil to achieve the ideals of peace and welfare with freedom and order, which are achieved only through law.

FOREIGN DEBT UP 25 PERCENT OVER LAST YEAR

PY121713Y Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 11 Aug 78 p 1 PY

[Text] Finance Minister Mario Henrique Simonsen confirmed yesterday that the country's gross foreign debt will be $40 billion by 31 December, which means that it will have increased 25 percent in comparison with 1977. However, he estimated that thanks to the growth of foreign reserves, which will reach $10 billion, the country's net foreign debt (gross debt less reserves) will be $30 billion which, he feels, is a "good figure." If a pessimistic possibility were to come true and 1978 exports failed to increase compared to last year due to the drought and the drop in coffee prices, the net debt estimated by the minister would be 2.5 times greater than the total amount of our exports, a rate which has no precedent in our history.

Simonsen indicated that "the important thing is the net debt, not the gross debt," adding that "if we were to have $10 billion worth of reserves, what would we really have?" He also said: "I believe in leaving a large reserve for the next government. It would be very comfortable for them. Besides, spending reserves is the easiest thing in the world." If the minister's estimates regarding gross foreign debt come true, this debt will be equivalent to 24.39 percent of the country's GNP in 1977, which reached $164 billion. Only 23 countries in the world have a GNP above $40 billion and only two U.S. enterprises have assets of more than $40 billion in 1977--General Motors and Exxon.

GEISEL TO MEET WITH PRESIDENT STROESSNER IN OCTOBER

PY141715Y Porto Alegre Radio Gaucha in Portuguese 1545 GMT 14 Aug 78 PY

[Text] Geisel, Figueiredo and President Alfredo Stroessner of Paraguay are to meet between 16 and 30 October in Recife. They will discuss work on the detour canal of the Parana River.

DETAILS OF DEBTS TO SOCIALIST COUNTRIES PUBLISHED

PY110328Y Santiago Chile EL MERCURIO in Spanish 9 Aug 78 Third Section p 1 PY

[Text] The Chilean state must pay off this year a total of $27.5 million to banks and financial organizations of socialist countries as interest and amortization on credits obtained between 1970 and 1973, the services of which have already been paid.

The amount to be paid this year may increase, because a $50-million credit granted by a consortium of socialist banks from Western [as published] Europe in 1972 must begin to be paid off this year, according to an agreement reached during the first half of this year.

According to statistics provided by the Central Bank, the debt to credit institutions of the socialist bloc by 31 December 1977 was $152.8 million, which represents 3.3 percent of the total foreign debt of the country on the same date.

Chile's main creditor among countries in this area is the USSR, with $112.8 million. The PRC follows with $18.2 million; then the GDR, with $10.7 million. Romania, with $6.7 million; Bulgaria, $2.7 million; and Czechoslovakia, $1.7 million.

The main credit institutions in the list of creditors of the Central Bank by 31 December 1977 are the Moscow Narodniy Bank, of the USSR, the Bulgarian Foreign Trade Bank, of Bulgaria; Cekobanka, of Czechoslovakia; a consortium of socialist banks of Western Europe; and the following Soviet banks in Europe: the Woschod Handelsbank, the Ost West Handelsbank, and the Eurobank.

It was reported that the debt with some of them has already been paid off this year, so those institutions are no longer creditors of the Central Bank.

Central Bank spokesmen stated that "the debt with these institutions has been canceled normally since last year, just like other Chilean commitments."

Since 1973 no credits from socialist countries have come to Chile, except for a $50-million loan granted to Chile by China in 1972, which was ratified last year. It was indicated, however, that this line of credit has not been used in the country so far.

Last year $25.7 million was paid off to creditors from socialist countries, broken down into $20.4 million amortization and $5.3 million interest.

The debt status for this year is as follows:

GDR	$2.3 million
Bulgaria	$0.4 million
Czechoslovakia	$0.5 million
PRC	$0.0 million
Romania	$2.2 million
USSR	$22.1 million

As indicated, the picture may change when the credit granted by the consortium of socialist banks is paid off and by the decision announced some time ago by the president of the Central Bank, Alvaro Bardon, to pay in advance the country's overall debt, considering the high level of accumulated reserves.

According to a document on the Chilean foreign debt recently published by the Central Bank, payments to socialist financing entities in the future will be: 1978, $27.5 million; 1979, $26.9 million; 1980, $6.4 million; 1981, $7.5 million; 1982, $8.5 million; 1983, $6.0 million; 1984, $5.3 million; 1985, $4.7 million; 1986, $4.4 million; and 1987, $4.3 million.

Until 1981, payments will be made only to countries of Eastern Europe and the USSR, and beginning in that year, a credit for $18.2 million from the PRC will begin to be canceled.

BRIEFS

ISRAELI FINANCE MINISTER'S VISIT--The Israeli finance minister should arrive in Santiago within the next few hours. He will talk with Chilean authorities on a formula to increase trade between the two countries. [Santiago Chile Cadena Agricultura in Spanish 0000 GMT 15 Aug 78 PY]

EL ESPECTADOR PUBLISHES BREZHNEV LETTER TO TURBAY

PA121556Y Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 10 Aug 78 pp 1, 19A PA

[Text] The USSR Goverrment yesterday invited President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala to make an official visit to Russia. The invitation was extended in a letter from Leonid Brezhnev in which he congratulates the chief of state. The text of the letter is as follows:

"Distinguished Mr President:

"I cordially congratulate you on the occasion of assuming the presidency of the Republic of Colombia.

"The Soviet people have warm feelings of profound respect for the working Colombian people, who were among the first in the Latin American continent to raise the banner of struggle for the country's independence, and wish them future prosperity.

"The Soviet Union conducts its relations with Colombia, as with other states, on the basis of the principle of equality, mutual respect and nonintervention in internal affairs. We point out with satisfaction that due to the efforts of the people and leaders of our countries mutually advantageous relations of friendship and cooperation have been established.

"I sincerely wish you, Mr President, success in the activities of your high post and express the hope that relations between our countries will continue to develop for the good of the Soviet and Colombian people and for the consolidation of universal peace and security. L. Brezhnev. Moscow, the Kremlin, 6 August 1978."

The Russian Embassy in Colombia also sent President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala the following note:

"The Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the Government of the Soviet Union invite his excellency, the president of the Republic of Colombia, Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala, to make an official visit. The date of the visit will be mutually agreed upon at a later time."

FARC KILLS PEASANT INFORMERS, SPORTS FANS

PA141947Y Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 14 Aug 78 PA

[Excerpts] Bogota--Fifteen people, including two police officers, have been killed by guerrilla commando groups of the so-called Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) during forays in the past few hours in Santander and Caqueta. Approximately 30 men carrying automatic weapons last night showed up at Vereda Torova, Cimitarra, south of Santander, attacked several homes and shot 12 poor peasants to death. The massacre followed the distribution of propaganda and painting of graffiti on the walls accusing the victims of being informers.

In Paujil municipality, Caqueta, a FARC commando consisting of five heavily armed men opened fire on several people who were watching a soccer game. Two were killed and one seriously injured. The guerrillas then fled in a camper whose driver was forced to take them to the mountainous region. The attack took place a few hours after Juanambu Battalion commander, Col Osvaldo Carreno Chamarro, confirmed the presence of FARC chief Manuel Marulanda Velez, alias Tiro Fijo, in the Guayabero region. The troops are conducting an intensive operation to capture the armed rebels.

POLITICIANS COMMENT ON POVEDA'S PROMISE TO REESTABLISH DEMOCRACY

PA112203Y Quito Cadena del Triunfo in Spanish 1255 GMT 11 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Statements by Adm Alfredo Poveda, president of the Supreme Council of Government, have brought a measure of peace to Ecuador's heated political climate. Poveda said before foreign journalists that the armed forces will respect the people's will and will maintain an upright position in the process for the reestablishment of democracy. The chief of state made these statements at a time when the voiding of election results led one political leader to believe that a destabilization of the plan for a return to democracy was on.

Of course there are always people who are skeptical about any statement regarding the political future. This radio station has consulted several political party leaders regarding Poveda's statements. Julio Cesar Trujillo, leader of the People's Democracy Party, which supports the Roldos-Hurtado ticket, believes that the armed forces are seriously committed as an institution to the legal reorganization plan. However, Trujillo has stated his concern over the presence of resentful sectors as a result of their defeat on 16 July. [begin Trujillo recording] Admiral Poveda's statements in Bogota confirm our belief that the armed forces, as a national institution, are seriously and sincerely committed to respecting the constitutionalization process of the country. His statements, which represent the attitude of the armed forces, deserve our recognition and our applause because they are in line with the sentiments of the majority of the Ecuadorean people, who on 15 January and on 16 July said en masse, with their votes, that they want to live in a de jure state. However, we must still continue to express our concern over the fact that small sectors that are resentful because of their defeat on 16 July may try to obstruct the will of the Ecuadorean people and the sincere wishes of the armed forces and try to disturb the vote-counting process and produce vote-voiding situations which could be used as a pretext for not letting the men elected by the Ecuadorean people win and to give victory to representatives of the oligarchy, who for years managed the destiny of the country to serve their own interests. [end recording]

Rafael Marquez Moreno, a Pichincha commando chief [as heard], has said that Poveda's statements create optimism and serve as a guarantee for the return to legality. [begin Marquez Moreno recording] His words, his statements, have brought peace to the hearts of all Ecuadoreans, regardless of political parties and candidates [words indistinct] a de jure state supported by the people's votes. [end recording]

Pedro Velasco, a leader of (FIFCA) [expansion unknown] and of the front that supports Sixto Duran Ballen, believes that Poveda's statements reflect a sincere decision to lead the country to democracy. [begin Velasco recording] Knowing that the government gave its word to return the government to civilians and having Poveda's statements made at the international level--which is very important because he said this before the world and the five leaders of the Cartagena agreement--ratify and give validity to the government's position. I believe that Admiral Poveda and the triumvirate are sincere. [end recording]

The ever-skeptic Jose Vicente (Ortino) of the Revolutionary Nationalist Party thinks that nothing has changed to make him believe Admiral Poveda's statements. [begin (Ortino) recording] [Words indistinct] Admiral Poveda's statements, the Revolutionary Nationalist Party continues to maintain the same skepticism. We are not forgetting that when Admiral Poveda took power he said that the government would be returned to the people on 11 January 1978. Since this promise was not fulfilled, skepticism remains and we maintain a position of continuous criticism, demanding fulfillment of the promise. So far we have not succeeded. [end recording]

Further Comments

PA121948Y Quito Cadena del Triunfo in Spanish 1255 GMT 12 Aug 78 PA

[Excerpts] The speech delivered by Adm Alfredo Poveda, president of the Supreme Council of Government, has brought a measure of peace to Ecuador's political climate, which had been shaken by the doubts awakened by the irregular vote-counting process. This is what several political leaders consulted by this radio station have said in regard to the political speech delivered by Poveda in Quito on occasion of the national holiday of 10 August.

As Pedro Jose (Ortesa), the director of Raul Clemente Huerta's presidential campaign sees it, Poveda's reaffirmations give assurance to the democratic reinstatement process. [begin (Ortesa) recording] Statements such as those have a soothing effect on the people and reassure the nation's democratic future. It is logical that Admiral Poveda's statements should say this since soldiers have one single mission and the only source of government power is national sovereignty. Ecuadorean democracy is a national goal that must be fulfilled and become a reality. Of course political leaders will defend this at any cost to make it a permanent and continuing fact. [end recording]

Osvaldo Hurtado, the vice presidential candidate of the Popular Democratic Movement, thinks that Admiral Poveda's speech should be studied by the Supreme Electoral Tribunal. He also commented on vote-counting irregularities. [begin Hurtado recording] So that Admiral Poveda's speech does not become just rhetorical remarks and so that action does take the place of words, I think that the ideas of the Supreme Council of Government should be studied by the Supreme Electoral Tribunal--as Jaime Roldos has stated. Poveda's statements about investigating and punishing anyone trying to violate the legal restructuring plan and the people's will as reflected in the votes should be given to some members of the Electoral Tribunal who are not practicing the principles fostered by the armed forces. Nothing else can be said of the fact that the popular will stated in the polls has been unjustifiably violated by the annulment of the votes from Cotopaxi Province, despite the fact that the reason given for this action is not in the elections law. The elections law has been violated to annul the votes from one province and the members of the Electoral Tribunal from Cotopaxi Province have stated that they have not received the envelopes. I not only believe them but I also have received reports from many persons who worked in electoral boards in Pichincha Province. For example, in La Floresta the electoral board members did not receive the envelopes until after 2000. [end recording]

Dr Germanico Salgado, an independent political observer, believes that following the reiteration of the decision to comply with the process there is no longer any doubt. [begin Salgado recording] I think that following the reiteration by Admiral Poveda of respect for the results of the elections and for our march toward culmination of the process there can remain very few doubts about the [word indistinct] of the results. The president of the Supreme Council of Government has stated that the government will respect the election results. This is a statement of great moral and political significance at this moment. What is the electoral will? This is a problem that should be legally solved by the Supreme Electoral Trinbunal, but as an Ecuadorean I think that Ecuadoreans have already stated their will and that there are very few doubts as to what can be the final result of the elections. I think that very few people doubt that in the first round the winner was the Roldos-Hurtado ticket. The voting was so heavy that whether we like it or not, it does represent the will of the Ecuadorean people. [end recording]

DOMINGO LAINO'S PARTY ISSUES COMMUNIQUE

PY111548Y Asuncion HOY in Spanish 11 Aug 78 p 8 PY

[Communique released by the Authentic Radical Liberal Party (PLRA) in Asuncion on 11 August 1978 and signed by all PLRA Executive Board members except Domingo Laino]

[Text] The PLRA Executive Board addresses national and international public opinion to state the following:

1. Domingo Laino, first vice president of the Executive Board, was released on 8 August 1978 after 32 days of imprisonment.

2. Before he was released he was taken to the office of the interior minister with whom he talked for approximately 1 hour.

3. The Executive Board, after learning about the matters discussed between Laino and Montanaro, reports to the party members and citizens in general that the discussions included matters of national interest such as Laino's activities in the United States, the nature of WOLA [Washington Office on Latin America] which sponsored his U.S. visit, President Carter's policies on human rights, the telegram sent by the Swedish Government to the president, the international image of the Paraguayan Government, the process being carried out against Miguel Angel Martinez Yaryes aimed at political persecution, the court sentences for alleged violations of laws No 209 and 294, and the treatment given to Laino in the investigations department. The discussion also included the irregular situation of Paraguayan liberals, who by a great majority adhere to the PLRA and who are justly recognized by national and international public opinion.

4. As a point of special attention, we emphasize the information on Laino's personal safety. In this regard, the interior minister warned the first vice president of our party "to be careful of some popular reactions," and even mentioned a Colorado Party faction known for its repressive activities.

The interior minister explained that it was not a threat but only a "warning," as the government is not in a position to control the possible reaction of these groups.

In this regard, the PLRA Executive Board believes that the current government organizes, controls and manages the officialist groups and that "any reaction" coming from them will be at the exclusive initiative and responsibility of the government.

The repression and public demonstrations organized by officialist groups against educational institutions, university centers and the latest demonstration against the U.S. Embassy fully confirm our belief.

However, Laino enjoys the sympathy and respectability of all sectors of the population, including members of the Colorado Party. Proof of this are the many demonstrations of support he has had and continues to receive as a result of the latest events.

5. The interior minister's warning is an open contradiction to Article 50 of the national Constitution which states: "Every person has the right to the state's protection of his life, physical integrity, freedom, security, property, honor and reputation." Therefore, the government has the unavoidable obligation to protect Domingo Laino and no pretext can justify in this case the government's ineffectiveness to protect him.

6. Therefore, the PLRA Executive Board reaffirms its document dated 1 June 1978 and holds the government responsible for any new attack which may affect Laino's life or physical integrity.

EMBOSCADA POLITICAL PRISONERS BEGIN HUNGER STRIKE

PY122103Y Asuncion HOY in Spanish 12 Aug 78 p 2 PY

[Excerpts] The Paraguayan Commission for the Defense of Human Rights yesterday reported that 17 political prisoners held in Emboscada Prison have begun a hunger strike because the government has not fulfilled its promise to release them and because of the bad conditions and the lack of medical attention.

The Executive Board of the Radical Liberal Party (PLR) yesterday reiterated the need to release political prisoners to coincide "with the anniversary of the foundation of Asuncion and as an honor to its glorious history." It also stated: "The government definitely must become convinced that the enforcement of constitutional guarantees is an unavoidable condition for the Paraguayan people to live in peace and security in order to work for the progress of the people and the country."

The PLR Executive Board added: "It is about time human rights and personal freedom become a tangible reality so they can no longer be used as an opportunistic commodity and so the government can be saved from a dishonorable situation here and abroad. The release of these political prisoners, the truthful and responsible information about the many missing persons and the liquidation of the 'police state' are moral and political imperatives which cannot be ignored."

The Emboscada prisoners, just before they began their hunger strike, sent a letter to Interior Minister Sabino Augusto Montanaro in which they informed him about the measure they were going to take. They stated: "We have waited until the last moment for the fulfillment of the announcements made to the international press by our country's foreign minister during the last OAS assembly. These announcements were confirmed here by you, as interior minister, through the promise made to our mediator, His Excellency Msgr Ismael Rolon, archbishop of Asuncion, during the hunger strike last June."

The note added: "This vain hope of ours is now frustrated. We are now convinced that the government, following its tradition of not knowing how to live without political prisoners (as shown by its 24 uninterrupted years in power), confirms once more its complete lack of seriousness in its statements and shows that it has simply decided to break its word, to not fulfill its official announcement, to not fulfill a promise. The government has decided to keep us under arrest indefinitely, violating our rights without caring for human drama to which, as victims, each one of us is subjected, as well as our families."

CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS ISSUE NATIONAL REORGANIZATION PROPOSALS

PY122112Y Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 12 Aug 78 p 14 PY

[Text] The Christian Democratic Party [PDC] has proposed the bases for a national dialog among all sectors of the country. The main proposals are the reorganization of the judicial branch, a revision of the electoral law and guarantees for the free organization and functioning of associations. The statement has been released by reason of President Alfredo Stroessner's upcoming inauguration for a new 5-year constitutional period. The document stresses that the government has the obligation to introduce a genuinely democratic and representative order in the country through national dialog. The PDC document questions the reelection of the president and refuses to recognize his term of office. The party wants a reorganization of the judicial branch and demands the appointment of competent and fair judges and the dismissal of those who have shown themselves to be incompetent, negligent or unfair in the discharge of their duties. It believes that judicial posts should be filled after a comparison of the titles, merits and abilities of the applicants.

It proposes the formation of a special commission of representatives for the democratic political parties--whether registered or not by the Central Electoral Board--to draw up a draft electoral law to replace the present law No 600. It also wants to establish a legal rule for the political parties, insuring a proportional representation system for the election of the representatives of the people. The document also requests the suppression of the requirement of membership in the government party for access to posts and functions and decentralized public entities, in order to give validity to the constitutional principle which grants equal opportunities to all Paraguayans to enter a career or public service without any condition other than that of ability and honesty.

The PDC also desires guarantees for the validity and respect for human rights which are recognized in the constitution and in international declarations and agreements signed by this country. It further asks that access to public and private communications media be granted to all existing political organizations under conditions of equality and that free organization and functioning be guaranteed for such associations as political parties, labor unions, professional associations and agrarian leagues. It believes that the government should abstain from all acts of intervention which may endanger the autonomy of such organizations.

VISITING ARGENTINE GROUP HAS NO COMMENT ON TRIPARTITE TALKS

FY141925Y Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 14 Aug 78 p 11 FY

[Text] "The document presented to the Brazilian and Paraguayan governments during the tripartite talks is a draft, a memorandum. Therefore it allows for suggestions and perhaps modifications, but Argentina does not intend to withdraw it." This statement was made yesterday by Arturo Ossorio Arana and Capt Gualter Allara, members of the Argentine delegation here to attend the ceremonies commemorating the founding of Asuncion.

Arturo Ossorio Arana stated: "My visit to Paraguay is in no way related to the tripartite talks concerning the question of making Corpus and Itaipu compatible. I am a member of my country's delegation attending the swearing in ceremony of President Stroessner."

He added: "We do not plan to hold talks on this matter since our presence here is for other purposes. Therefore, it would be difficult to discuss subjects related to the exploitation of the Parana River." Asked if the Argentine Government intends to withdraw the memorandum presented to Brazil and Paraguay with regard to the tripartite talks, Ossorio Arana said: "I have no reports to that effect. I don't believe so."

"The document presented to Brazil and Paraguay during the tripartite talks is a draft, and therefore suggestions can be made. I believe, as my government has repeatedly asserted, that the document will not be withdrawn," Capt Gualter Allara said.

Captain Allara, who is also a member of the Argentine delegation, explained that he does not plan to take part in talks on the energy resources of the Parana River during his stay in Asuncion. He stated: "I am here to attend the ceremonies commemorating the founding of Asuncion and I do not believe I will take part in any dialog concerning the tripartite talks."

At another point in his remarks, Captain Allara said: "I have no information on whether or not my government will deliver another document concerning the tripartite negotiations to the Brazilian and Paraguayan governments. I have no reports to this effect," he concluded.

GOVERNMENT REVAMPS BUDGET TO CUT EXPENDITURES

PA131333Y Lima Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 1900 GMT 12 Aug 78 PA

[Excerpt] The government has partially modified the current Public Sector Budget Law (DL 22049) through decree laws numbers 22264 and 22265, which were published today in EL PERUANO. The changes are directed at reorganizing public spending, reducing current outlays and increasing investment within the framework of "strict austerity" and through "a decrease in expenditures for personnel, goods and services while at the same time setting up mechanisms to redirect such resources toward productive activities."

The first two articles of decree law No 22264 modify the total outlays and revenues of the Public Sector Budget Law (DL 22049) and establishes requirements for rewriting budgets and adjusting expenditures and investment allocations. Article 18 of the same decree law says" "The chiefs of the sector are authorized to reduce personnel and needs in goods and services, subject to the following conditions: A) elimination or reduction of activities and/or programs so long as they do not critically affect the rendering of indispensable services; B) total or partial elimination of directorates, departments, offices or other elements of the administrative structure of the central government whose services are dispensable or can be absorbed by other existing public entities; C) reorganization of administrative procedures and paperwork; D) freezing of the budget allocations available for works or projects that have not been started after consultation with the National Planning Institute, except for local interest projects." Article 19 says: "The heads of the sector will issue the necessary directives to determine the budget allocations which will be eliminated." Article 20: "Within 30 calendar days from the date of issuance of the present decree law, supervisors will draft and submit for approval to the head of the corresponding sector the lists of the budgeted positions which can be eliminated."

Article 21: For the rest of fiscal year 1978, all types of wage increases are prohibited in the entire public sector with the exception of personal or family compensation [renumeracion personal familiar] or any compensation stemming from collective agreements, change in post or as granted by law.

Article 22: "All government organizations are prohibited from assuming new commitments for the following: A) renumeration for teaching, except for courses which have already been initiated or when the education or training corresponds to a specific function of the organization; B) studies for research or similar purposes, except for organizations whose essential function consists of those activities and for corporations which conduct research directed toward improving production or productivity. Evaluations of studies and corresponding expenses are not considered new commitments; C) educational rights or similar concepts, except for courses which have already begun."

Article 24: "The specific appropriation for official expenses cannot exceed the amount used up until the date of the enactment of this decree law plus 80 percent of the remaining funds available on the same date. Requests for official expenses will be submitted to the head of the corresponding sector for his approval."

Article 26: "Within 90 calendar days of the enactment of this decree law, the heads of sectors will propose to the council of ministers--after submitting a report from the interministerial commission on economic and financial affairs, drafted with the participation of the corresponding sector's cabinet minister--the elimination, consolidation or reorganization of the decentralized government organizations of their sector as well as the total or partial divestiture of the capital stock of public corporations and those in which the state has participation and which do not correspond to financial activities or activities reserved for the state through specific legal provisions.

The approval of the proposal will be carried out by supreme decree with the approval of the Council of Ministers, which will determine the terms and procedures to implement the measure."

Article 31: "Public organizations will draft their budget for the next fiscal year under the following guidelines: A) The total budget for any category cannot exceed the amount authorized for fiscal year 1978; B) All restrictions established under the existing austerity program will be applied; C) Subsidies will be completely eliminated; D) Current transfers to public corporations will be completely eliminated; and E) The Economy and Finance Ministry will establish other requirements."

Reorganizes Public Spending

PA1420147Y Lima Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 1904 GMT 14 Aug 78 PA

[Text] The new measures issued by the revolutionary government for the reorganization of public spending will permit the continuation of the development plans which have been implemented in the country at a total cost of 40,668,700,000 soles, it was reported today. The new measures contained in decrees No 22264 and No 22265 will reduce the fiscal deficit, curb inflation and earmark most financial and manpower resources for production and national development.

The agrarian sector will have an allotment of 14,072,700,000 soles, in addition of 298.2 million soles for social-interest projects. The Majes-Siguas, Chira-Pira and Tinajones irrigation projects and the support program for dairy cattle will not be interrupted. The transportation and communications sector has been allocated 10,336,700,000 soles to invest in projects, so the road and communications works are insured. The housing and construction sector will receive 4,043,200,000 soles for sectorial development and local interest projects, which includes the national urban water supply and drainage plan. The education sector has been provided 2,697,700,000 soles this year. An allocation of 2,189,700,000 soles goes to the health sector, including 445.1 million soles for the Chimbote hospital and funds for other hospitals.

The Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Tourism and Integration has been assigned 1,922,200,000 soles, 1.665 billion of which is earmarked for the Copesco plan. Fisheries will receive 1,289,700,000 soles this year. An allocation of 283.9 million soles goes to the energy and mines sector, most of which is earmarked for local interest projects. Among investments in regional development, some 406.5 million soles will go to the Bayovar Complex Development Organization.

Promises No More 'Packages'

PA1222122Y Lima Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 1855 GMT 12 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Economy Minister Javier Silva Ruete said yesterday that there will be no new "packages" of economic measures or an increase in the price of fuels. He added that the economic readjustment measures which are part of the restructurization and reactivation program of the national economy "are progressive, without surprises and are being applied according to a perfectly organic program."

He also referred to the fulfillment of the goals established in the Tupac Amaru plan, giving as an example the establishment of the Constituent Assembly on the prescribed date and in a democratic climate and with the complete participation of the population. He said that "a government which fulfills its promises in this fashion and which states that there will be no new economic packages, that the measures will be perfectly organic and progressive, has the right to demand credibility from the population."

ACTING DEFENSE MINISTER COMMENTS ON ARMS PURCHASES

PA150313Y Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 11 Aug 78 p 1-19 PA

[Article by Rafael S. Borges]

[Excerpts] Venezuela is one of the countries in Latin America which assigns the lowest percentage of its total budget to arms purchases, acting Defense Minister Vice Adm Felix J. Mendoza Acosta said at the Miraflores Palace yesterday.

He said this to newsmen in response to a report published in the United States which says that Venezuela is in third place among the Latin American countries that have purchased the most arms in recent years.

I believe the report is inaccurate because the percentage assigned in our budget to arms purchases is much lower, Mendoza Acosta asserted. The figures contained in the 1979 budget approved by Congress prove what we are saying, he added.

The report to which you are referring seems to have been prepared by persons who are not very well versed on the subject, the acting defense minister said.

[Question--unidentified reporter] Is it true that the navy has purchased new ships?

[Answer] Based on the navy's development program, some replacements for outdated units were considered. However, we do plan to buy some ships for training our personnel, but they will not necessarily increase our navy's fighting power.

[Question] When are the frigates that are being built in Italy going to arrive?

[Answer] The first one will go into service by the end of September and the others will go into service at 3-month intervals thereafter.

[Question] Is it true that President Perez is going to receive a report on the construction of the frigates?

[Answer] Enrico Bocchini, an engineer who is president and manager of the Italian firm, is having a meeting with President Carlos Andres Perez today (yesterday).

At the end of his meeting with President Perez, the newsmen interviewed Bocchini, who told them that he had paid a courtesy visit to the Venezuelan president and that he had informed him about the progress in the construction of the frigates carrying multiple warhead missiles purchased by Venezeula.

Bocchini said that the first frigate will be named the Mariscal Sucre and will be ready in September. Regarding the second and third frigates, he said that they will be delivered in the first quarter of 1979.

Bocchini said that these frigates are very fast and highly sophisticated, with armaments capable of neutralizing air raids and submarine attacks. They have a crew capacity of 200 men, apart from officers and noncommissioned officers. Their weight is approximately 2,000 tons each. These ships are being built in Rivatrigoso, Ancona and La Spezie shipyards, Bocchini revealed.

Finally, Bocchini told newsmen that he had given President Perez a model of the first frigate.

NEW ARMY DIVISION ESTABLISHED IN SOUTHERN REGION

PA141729Y Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 14 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Another army division will be established in the country's southern region. This is in compliance with the national armed forces' Carabobo plan approved in 1975 by the president of the republic, Carlos Andres Perez. The report was confirmed by the 6th Infantry Division command located in Ciudad Bolivar. It was said that the new military unit will be made up of three combat brigades which will be located as follows: one between Ciudad Bolivar and Puerto Ordaz, one in Tumeremo and a third between Puerto Ayacucho and Santa Barbara. Finally, it was noted that the new division will serve to defend the country's border.

ENERGY MINISTER DENIES REPORTS OF SPECIAL OPEC MEETING

PA112001Y Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 11 Aug 78 PA

[Text] The Venezuelan Government has not received an invitation to attend an extraordinary meeting of the OPEC, Energy and Mines Minister Valentin Hernandez Acosta has stated. The minister said that regrettably, there is always speculation with regard to the OPEC. This occurs because we have no reason to make daily comments on what we are doing, the minister said.

Hernandez Acosta said that a special OPEC meeting could be held any time that the ministers of the organization wished to hold one. The minister said that as a result of the recent meeting in London to evaluate the relationship between the dollar and oil prices, it is possible that an extraordinary assembly may be held, but so far it has not been officially convoked.

PRESIDENT PEREZ DEFENDS AGRICULTURE POLICY

PA140127Y Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 2050 GMT 14 Aug 78 PA

[Statements to unnamed Radio Continente reporter by Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez on 14 August 1978 at the Miraflores Palace--recorded]

[Text] [Question] Mr President, the opposition is saying that your agriculture policy has been a failure because Venezuela has had to import agricultural products during your administration. What do you have to say about this?

[Answer] I do not like to answer such foolish questions. Everyone in Venezuela knows that agricultural production in Venezuela has reached record figures during my administration. We only have to look at the statistics report from the Central Bank of Venezuela. There is no comparison between the thousands of millions of bolivares that had been given in loans to farmers during my administration and the hundreds of millions they received from previous governments. If it were true that agricultural production had decreased, the government is not to blame. It simply means that Venezuelan farmers have been dishonest and instead of using the money they received in loans to increase production, they have been spending it on something else. If this were the case, then we should not give anymore aid to our farmers. But we know that this is not the case.

What the opposition does not want to admit is that our full employment policy has increased the buying power of the Venezuelan people and that their consumption of foodstuffs has doubled and in some cases tripled. It is not only the rich who are buying more food. On the contrary, they are supposed to be on a diet fad. It is the general public who are spending more on food and this is something that really satisfies me, because it means that many more Venezuelans are in a position to buy more consumer goods.

FINANCE MINISTER SEES FAVORABLE ECONOMIC SITUATION

PA090202Y Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 2050 GMT 8 Aug 78 PA

[Text] In an interview of Venezuela's financial and economic situation disseminated by the Finance Ministry's press office, Finance Minister Luis Jose Silva Luongo has stated that we live in a prosperous country.

According to Silva Luongo, per capita income increased from 3,000 bolivares in 1972 to 7,500 bolivares in 1977. He asserted that the increase showed the great development and levels of prosperity reached by the country in the past few years.

Silva Luongo referred to the Venezuelan financial market, stating that it is quite stable and in the process of being strengthened. He said that the exemptions on interest from bank deposits and the various incentives given to foreign capital for investing in constructive projects are the reasons for this outlook which is one of open optimism and total rejection of pessimism.

He said that only CORPOINDUSTRIA has produced more than 6 billion bolivares. In addition, the private sector has contributed with approximately 20 billion bolivares to the country's industrial complex in the past few years. The finance minister extensively cited many figures when he spoke about the country's economic and financial bonanza.

NUMBER OF PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES REDUCED TO 10

PA112006Y Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 11 Aug 78 PA

[Text] The Supreme Electoral Council has approved the reduction of the number of presidential candidates to 10.

The legislation committee of the council approved a report which rules out the presidential candidacy of Alberto Solano and also disqualifies Jose Vicente Rangel as the candidate of the Socialist League and the GAR [Revolutionary Action Groups].

Alberto Solano's Emacipating Force Party, the GAR and the Socialist League will now be participating in the electoral process with a small slate.

ISRAELI LABOR LEADER ARRIVES FOR 4-DAY VISIT

PA141704Y Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 14 Aug 78 PA

[Text] (Iluham Mechel), secretary general of the General Confederation of Workers of Israel, has arrived for a 4-day visit. (Mechel) was elected secretary general in 1964 and reelected in 1977. He is a member of the Central Labor and Management Council, which advises the Israeli Government on economic matters, and is also a member of the Knesset.

(Iluham Mechel) will begin a busy schedule in our country today, Monday, with a visit to the headquarters of the Confederation of Venezuelan Workers at 1100 and a visit to President of the Republic Carlos Andres Perez at 1300. In the afternoon, the Jewish visitor will first meet with Labor Minister Jose Manzo Gonzalez and later with National Congress President Gonzalo Barrios.

PRI ASSEMBLY REDEFINES PARTY PLATFORM

PA1313411Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 0112 GMT 13 Aug 78 PA

[By Jose Carreno]

[Text] Mexico City, 12 Aug (EFE)--The national assembly of the Institutional Revolutionary Party [PRI], which ended today, has voiced its opposition to injustice, demanded nationalization of industries and defined itself as a "workers party." The PRI has been in power for 49 years. The orderly progress of the assembly, in which everything had been agreed upon beforehand, was interrupted only once by a youthful member of the government party who this morning accused the assembly of being "undemocratic." The heckler was quickly quieted by security agents while on the speakers platform party theorist Enrique Ramirez y Ramires, former member of the Communist and Popular Socialist parties, criticized those who consider the PRI a multiclass organization. "Do they pretend to maintain the old concept that there is room in the PRI for both the exploiters and the exploited," asked the PRI leader, who is also editor of the newspaper EL DIA.

The assembly, which opened at 1000 on Thursday, served to confirm in his post the party's until recently often criticized president, Carlos Sansores Perez, and to elect as party secretary, Gustavo Carbajal, a man who has the strong trust of President Jose Lopez-Portillo. Since it was convoked to modernize the party's principles and establish bases for internal democratization, the national assembly of the PRI presented the party as the champion of the people's needs and demanded nationalization of the food and pharmaceutical industries.

The national assembly also served to test the strength of the sectors in power. For example, labor representatives demanded at least one-third of the seats which the PRI will almost surely obtain in the next legislative elections in July 1979. The assembly also produced a forum to denounce the existence of "traitors" in the PRI as well as attempts "directed from abroad" to change its ideology and guide the organization toward the right. However, the most important point emphasized by Sansores Perez at the closing of the assembly was warning that "we are going to affect large interests because we are confronting those who benefit from social injustice."

The president added that the PRI will fight against the industrial, financial, commercial or public utilities monopolies without discarding "economic absolutism." In its statements the PRI expressed openly its support for the president of the republic's "continuing struggle to lead the country toward historic and national development by overcoming adversity and obstacles."

In any case, according to local observers the great virtue of the assembly was that after a period of internal strife the PRI appears to be again united through the subordination of the groups opposed to the authority of Sansores Perez, although it is in fact that of President Lopez-Portillo himself. The unhappy one is Jorge Cortes Gomez who, in asking for the floor and accusing the PRI's system of being undemocratic, was arrested by security agents and led out of the room.

BRIEFS

REPAYMENT OF FOREIGN FINANCING--Mexican oil has insured repayment of foreign financing. Through exports for 2 years and 3 months, Mexico will be able to cover all its commitments up to 31 July. Futhermore, 40 percent of Mexico's territory has very good prospects of having crude oil deposits. It was reported that 80 percent of the entire surface of the country, including the continental shelf, has possible oil deposits, and current studies foress very good prospects for halt that area. [Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 5 Aug 78 PA]

MATUTINO ASKS TRIBUNAL TO ANNUL ELECTIONS

PA141722Y Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 14 Aug 78 p 6A PA

["Conciencia Publica" column by Miguel Angel Moreno Gongora: "Annul the Elections..."]

[Excerpt] Three months ago, we said that "the Electoral Tribunal authorities, particularly the magistrates, have shown unconcealable honesty and an evident capacity for work and impartiality in all their activities; demonstrating at all times, and despite the outrages committed by several candidates, great seriousness in all their pronouncements and official participations." In other words, while we rejected the system, we were, nonetheless, acknowledging the electoral magistrates' proper actions as persons and public officials.

Today, after the elections for Corregimiento representatives have been held and we have learned of over 100 challenges and denunciations of electoral crimes committed by the candidates themselves, with the complicity of civilians in some cases, but in most cases with the complicity of public officials of various rank, I sincerely appeal to those magistrates who have seen their work marred by the outrageous mistakes committed in areas beyond their control so they will make the best, most intelligent and patriotic decisions without any concern as to who will be affected by their legal pronouncements.

It is very important to bear in mind that because the elections for Corregimiento representatives include the most humble echelons of our society, the results affect sectors which on many occasions have been reduced to mere family groups, regional circles or peasant conglomerates. Over the next 6 years, any element of discord, disatisfaction or protest may turn those human groups into truly diabolical caldrons where revenge, hatred and trouble will reign if the decisions made in connection with the denunciations of electoral violations are not sensible, just or legal.

For all the above reasons, I believe that without further consideration and so long as the reasons for dissatisfaction seem reasonable, the Electoral Tribunal should proceed to annul the elections and hold new, duly-supervised elections in order to satisfy the public in the affected regions and safeguard the Electoral Tribunal's name from any future responsibility.

TORRIJOS SENDS MESSAGE AGAINST RACISM TO UN CONFERENCE

PA141540Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1409 GMT 14 Aug 78 PA

[Excerpts] Panama City, 14 Aug (ACAN-EFE)--Panamanian Chief of Government Gen Omar Torrijos believes it is urgent and unpostponable that the United Nations draft new international instruments that will be truly effective against racial discrimination.

In a message to the world conference against racism and discrimination which opens today in Geneva, Torrijos said an international fund should be created to help the victims [of racism] and to struggle with all means available against discrimination, racism and apartheid.

Torrijos expressed hopes that the conference which begins in Geneva today will undertake "the final offensive to definitely overcome the racist cancer which affects humanity."

Text of Message Published

PA150139Y Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 14 Aug 78 pp 1, 26 PA

[Message sent by Panamanian Chief of Government Gen Omar Torrijos to the chairman of the world conference to combat racism and racial discrimination at the Palace of Nations, Geneva--date not given]

[Text] The conference to combat racism and racial discrimination is an outstanding event in the struggle of the peoples who are suffering the humiliation of racism and disrespect for the essential human values.

The United Nations cannot resign itself to the role of a simple spectator in the face of the systematic actions of colonialists and neocolonialists. For this reason, the top priority task of this conference must be to concentrate on redoubling action against racial discrimination in all its forms and manifestations, including the inhumane system of apartheid which, to the shame of humanity, still prevails in southern Africa.

The United Nations should go beyond the role of firemen dousing violent situations created by the unjust relations that provoke popular upheavals. When peaceful changes are not achieved, the people have no recourse but to promote violent changes.

Amilcar Cabral used to say that "solidarity without equality is only charity, and charity has never contributed to the progress of nations and human beings." This thought by the dead African leader takes on a present relevance in view of the noncompliance with many resolutions issued by the organs of the United Nations.

Therefore, it is urgent and unpostponable that the world conference devote itself to the preparation of new international instruments that will be really effective against racial discrimination. This will be aided b the establishment of an international fund which should not be limited to providing aid to the victims [of racial discrimination], but should also be used to combat racial discrimination, racism and apartheid by every means.

I express the wishes of the Panamanian Government and people for the success of the conference, in hope that the men and women from all the points of the compass gathered there will put into motion a final offensive to definitely overcome the racist cancer which affects humanity, and in hope that this conference will project a new dimension of peace that will promote the dignity and value of the human being based on equal rights for men and women in all regions of the world.

[Signed] Omar Torrijos Herrera, Chief of Government of Panama

SPAIN'S GONZALEZ TO ACCOMPANY TORRIJOS TO DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

PA150317Y Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 14 Aug 78 PA

[Excerpts] Sources within the Panamanian Foreign Ministry reported today that Felipe Gonzalez, leader of the Spanish Socialist Worker's Party, will travel to the Dominican Republic tomorrow with Chief of Government Gen Omar Torrijos Herrera. Felipe Gonzalez has been in Panama since Saturday, resuming talks with the Panamanian chief of government which began in Spain and were later continued in Bogota. General Torrijos will leave tomorrow along with his retinue to participate in the inauguration of new Dominican President Antonio Guzman. The chief of government's party is made up of Foreign Minister Nicolas Gonzalez-Revilla, adviser Romulo Escobar Bethancourt, Ambassador to the United Nations Dr Jorge Illueca and Ascanio Villalaz, an engineer.

NONALINED CONFERENCE RESULTS CALLED VICTORY ON BORDER ISSUE

FL121500Y Belize City BELIZE TIMES in English 6 Aug 78 pp 1, 16 FL

[Text] Belize scored another victory in Belgrade, the capital of Yugoslavia. Returning home this week members of the Belize delegation came home with hands bulging once again. The justice of the Belizean case has been confirmed by the world community by a massive vote of confidence.

The foreign ministers of eighty-seven countries pledged full support for the right of the Belizean people to self-determination. Unanimously the non-aligned countries of the world publicly publish their support for the independence of Belize. Moreover, the decision of this conference has been to give Belize stronger and fuller support than in the past.

The foreign ministers pledge their support for the right of the people of Belize to self-determination, to independence and to territorial integrity. This means that the ministers support the right of the people of Belize democratically and without out-side interference to decide their political, social and economic destiny. They also support the right of the Belizean people to independence. They also support the right of the Belizean people to control and take all decisions over Belizean territory. This means that the foreign ministers understand the aims of the Belizean people, agree that they are right and just and therefore lend their unqualified support.

The foreign ministers then expressed their grave concern over the repeated and persistent pressures exerted by the British and the Americans over the Government of Belize to cede land to Guatemala. They also disapprove of the threats of invasion made by Guatemala if Belize goes to independence without giving some Belizean land to Guatemala.

Then the ministers turn their attention to the consequences of these serious pressures and unlawfull threats. They recognise that because of these treats and pressures British colonialism continues to exist in the Western Hemisphere; they recognise also that these threats and pressures could constitute a threat to peace and security in the region because Guatemala and England might start a fight over Belize; and the ministers recognise that these pressures and threats prevent the development of harmonious relations and threats divide the countries of the Caribbean Basin between those which support Belize and the few which support Guatemala.

Having looked at how Guatemala's greed affects the region, the ministers then place new emphasis on their faith in the people of Belize. They examine the policy of the Government of Belize and notice that this policy aims at achieving independence by any one of two roads, settlement of the Guatemalan claim or arrangement of a defence guarantee of the independence and territory of Belize. Once the ministers saw this policy they approved and endorsed this policy for achieving an early and safe independence.

But the ministers noticed that while they were in favour of this policy and while they were willing to support Belize, England had a special responsibility. It is England's duty to help Belize to attain its secure independence by any one of the two roads proposed by the Government of Belize. England must respect the democratically established policy of the people of Belize.

The ministers ended their message on Belize by urging all the nations of the world to see to it that the last resolution of the United Nations for the early and safe independence of Belize is carried out without change or deviation. They call on all the countries of the non-aligned movement and the other countries of the world to give all practical and meaningful help that may be necessary to make Belize advance rapidly to a safe and secure independence with its territory intact.

How much longer must the people of Belize suffer and bear the colonial yoke? How much longer will their wish be frustrated? How much longer will their rights go unfulfilled?

COSTA RICA

LAUNCH TAKEN INTO CUSTODY FOR ILLEGAL FISHING

PA112113Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 11 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Authorized Interior Ministry sources have reported that the launch San Jose III was taken into custody off Playa del Coco. The launch apparently violated fishing laws.

Reports indicate that although the ship is listed as Costa Rican, the captain and part of the crew are Nicaraguan. In addition, it is believed that the fish catch was being taken to Nicaragua. Authorities have referred the case to the office of the mayor of Carrillo, where the pertinent measures will be determined.

PRESIDENT CONCERNED ABOUT U.S. MEAT IMPORT QUOTAS

PA122136Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1712 GMT 12 Aug 78 PA

[Text] San Jose, 12 Aug (AFP)--Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo has expressed concern over the possibility that the United States may adopt more rigid measures in setting meat import quotas. In statements made here today, Carazo referred to the decision by the U.S. Congress to take away from the U.S. President the right to establish these quotas. He also referred to the fact that it will be Congress itself which will have to determine a new procedure.

"For Costa Rica," he affirmed, "this will mean that more rigid measures will be adopted in that nation." The Costa Rican president recalled that for this year he obtained a quota of 68 million pounds of meat for the U.S. market and that for next year the country's prospects indicate an even greater export capacity.

OFFICIALS TO ATTEND DOMINICAN INAUGURATION ANNOUNCED

PA111302Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0018 GMT 11 Aug 78 PA

[Text] San Jose, 10 Aug (ACAN-EFE)--A Foreign Ministry source has reported to ACAN-EFE that Rodrigo Altman Ortiz, first vice president of Costa Rica, and Interior Minister Juan Jose Echeverria will represent the Costa Rican Government at the inauguration of new Dominican President Antonio Guzman.

It was said that Foreign Minister Rafael Angel Calderon will not be able to attend because he will be in Mexico negotiating new technical and cultural cooperation agreements at that time (next week). It was also reported that former Presidents Jose Figueres and Daniel Oduber were also invited to the Dominican change of command. Oduber confirmed that he will leave for Santo Domingo on Monday but no confirmation was received from Figueres.

EL SALVADOR

MANAGER OF SWEDISH TELEPHONE COMPANY KIDNAPED

PA142358Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2244 GMT 14 Aug 78 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 14 Aug (ACAN-EFE)--Swedish citizen Kjell Bjork, 35 years old, was kidnaped this afternoon by a group of armed men. Bjork is manager of the Swedish L.M. Erickson Telephone Company in El Salvador, where he has been a resident for the past 5 years. The kidnaping took place when Bjork left the offices of Dada and Company, located on the southern side of the Salvadoran social security hospital, in San Salvador. Witnesses said that six armed men, acting coolly and without covering their faces, threatened him with their guns and compelled him to get into his own vehicle. Police authorities immediately placed a dragnet around the city to keep the kidnapers from leaving the city.

NICARAGUA

NOVEDADES HAS KIND WORDS FOR EPISCOPAL CONFERENCE

PA120214Y Managua NOVEDADES in Spanish 6 Aug 78 p 3 PA

[Editorial: "The Dialog Has Begun"]

[Text] We do not agree with some of the statements made by the Nicaraguan episcopal conference which was "addressed to men of good will." However, we are pleased to observe that the Catholic Church in our country has started the dialog by stressing that: "We do not support violence; it is time for decisions that cannot wait. The authorities and the most qualified citizens must seek specific and true solutions to the problems we face in order to meet the demands of the majorities under the present circumstances."

We praise the interest of the conference to put a stop to bloodshed in Nicaragua and to seek solutions to the country's problems, particularly at this time "when the nation makes radical demands (which are not precisely extremist), with generosity and patriotism, in order to avoid the unnecessary loss of lives and property," the episcopal conference noted.

The Nationalist Liberal Party is a political reality which cannot be ignored by anyone. It should be taken into account because it has been the creator of the social and economic revolution in our country. In its capacity as majority party it has taken Gen Anastasio Somoza Debayle to the constitutional presidency of Nicaragua for the period prescribed by the constitution.

Our constitution provides for and stresses the procedures to be followed by all those groups that honestly want peace and tranquillity in our nation.

"It is not too late. Peace must exist. Peace is possible," the bishops affirmed in their episcopal conference. The president of the republic, Anastasio Somoza Debayle, has always concurred with any sector that has these patriotic principles.

This was evidenced in a letter he sent to Congress in which he returned the constitutional reforms and in which he said: Regarding the other proposed reforms, which refer to the composition of the electoral power and its various entities and the participation of the minorities in the different branches of government--a participation which I feel has been customary in the past few administrations and which according to Article 11 is regarded as a constitutional precept--I feel that these reforms should be the result of a consensus achieved through dialog by all political forces that, with a democratic attitude, are interested in participating in the elections to find just and democratic solutions to our political problems.

It is my duty as president to exhaust all possible means in order to arrive at a serious, calm and realistic approach to things. This is to be done jointly with my fellow countrymen in a civilized manner. Once this is achieved, and as soon as reasonable formulas are found to permit the institutional development of the republic in peace and order, then appropriate reforms will be issued.

GOVERNMENT CLOSES RADIO STATION FOR TWO MONTHS

PA130442Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0017 GMT 13 Aug 78 PA

[Excerpt] Managua, 12 Aug (ACAN-EFE)--The Nicaraguan radio and television directorate today ordered the closing of the station "Fabuloso Siete" for a period of 2 months and imposed a fine of 5,000 cordobas ($714) on the radio newscast "Dialogo," which is broadcast by the station. Col Alberto Luna Solorzano, director of radio and television, called the director of the newscast to his office and notified him of the sanction for having broadcast a "false" report earlier this month affirming that two bodies, "supposedly of soldiers," had been found after violent incidents occurred in the city of Jinotepe in southern Nicaragua.

STUDENT-MILITARY CLASH OCCURS IN MANAGUA

PA121551Y Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 1220 GMT 12 Aug 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] There have been new incidents between the military and students in the (Las Fritas) Education Center, the largest in Managua, as a result of the presence of soldiers at the school. The students demanded the withdrawal of the soldiers, who responded by shooting into the air and arresting several students. The teachers have suspended classes as a protest against the incidents which endanger the lives of the students. Mrs Nubia Flores, secretary of the parents association, was arrested and beaten by an army officer. A student was arrested after the incidents. Mrs Flores was released hours later.

CONSTRUCTION WORK STOPPAGE, GROUP OF 12 RALLY REPORTED

PA142001Y Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 1720 GMT 14 Aug 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] Sources of the Union of Carpenters, Masons and Related Workers [Sindicato de Carpinteros, Albaniles y Similares--SCAS] have reported that several construction sites have been struck today for an indefinite period in solidarity with the hospital sector. The union confirmed that the areas affected by the action include two construction sites of the Sovipe firm, one in Altos de Santo Domingo, the (Japa) Country Club, the El Recreo Hotel, the district center of the (ANAP) [Nicaraguan Public Administration Association] and the district center of Sovipe. About 1,000 workers are employed at those construction sites. This morning, SCAS leaders were touring the various construction sites to confirm the number of areas struck paralyzed in support of the hospital workers.

From another quarter, it was reported that about 10,000 persons accompanied the Group of 12 in a demonstration through several streets of Chinandega yesterday. The Group of 12 arrived in that city at noon. There was no military surveillance since the troops were in their barracks. Dr Sergio Ramirez, Joaquin Caudra and priest Fernando Cardenal spoke on behalf of the Group of 12.

U.S. AMBASSADOR'S ABSENCE FROM OFFICIAL EVENT NOTED

PA121853Y El Progreso Radio Progreso in Spanish 1230 GMT 12 Aug 78 PA

[Text] The absence of U.S. Ambassador Mary-Luci Jaramillo from the opening of the capital's interchange was conspicuous (?in view of) the attendance of most members of the diplomatic corps. She did not delegate this responsibility to any other U.S. Embassy official either. Observers at the event advanced several reasons but there was no official explanation from either the armed forces government or the U.S. Embassy itself.

A military spokesman said that the presence of the ambassadors during the first public appearance of the military government junta should be construed as (?tacit) recognition [words indistinct] the absence of the U.S. representative. Other absences which are the subject of comment were those of some managers of independent agencies, such as the Honduran Banana Corporation (?EME) and others. This has been interpreted to mean that reorganization is imminent in these agencies. Also absent was Health Minister [name indistinct], who according to some inquiries that have been made is a close family friend of Gen Juan Alberto Melgar Castro, the deposed chief of state.

BRIEFS

COSTA RICAN FINANCING COUNCIL--San Jose, 6 Aug (ACAN-EFE)--It was announced at the installation of the National Foreign Financing Council of Costa Rica that in the future the state will seek foreign financing exclusively through the council and not through different procedures as previously. The council is composed of Ernesto Rohrmoser Garcia, council president; Rafael Diaz of the Central Bank; Leonel Baruch, vice minister of finance; and Jose Luis Boucompagni of the National Planning and Economic Office. [Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0058 GMT 8 Aug 78 PA]

COSTA RICAN AMBASSADORS APPOINTED -Costa Rican Foreign Relations Minister Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier recently appointed Jaime Botey Brenes as ambassador to Jamaica, Antonio Canas Irraeta as ambassador to France, Federico Alvarez Fernandez as ambassador to Honduras, Virginia Castrol Odio as ambassador to Venezuela and Arnoldo Amrhein Pinto as ámbassador to West Germany. [San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 3 Aug 78 p 8-A PA]

SALVADORAN TRADE WITH MEXICO--El Salvador and Mexico will increase their trade exchange in accordance with an agreement reached on 9 August in San Salvador between the Mexican Council for International Affairs, which is composed of government and business figures, and representatives of Salvadoran Government and business sectors. [San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1720 GMT 10 Aug 78 PA]

U.S. FAVORITISM TOWARD ISRAEL SEEN IN CAMP DAVID SUMMIT

FL142025Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 14 Aug 78 FL

[Revolutionary Armed Forces and Interior Ministry Combatants Political Information Program commentary]

[Text] The U.S. Government has invited Israel and Egypt to a summit meeting at Camp David during the first part of September to continue their dialog on the Middle East conflict. The Western press has referred to the summit as a last-ditch effort by the United States to reactivate the peace process in the Middle East. One has to ask: Will the North American government exert any pressure on Israel to make it return the occupied Arab territories and accept the creation of an independent Palestinian state? It is quite clear that Washington will once more try to convince Egypt to sign a separate peace treaty with Israel under conditions advantageous for Tel Aviv.

The North American-Egyptian-Israeli summit is directed at reviving the dialog that started in February in accordance with the White House strategy of conducting separate negotiations between the Arab countries and the Zionist state, ignoring the demand for the return of territories occupied by Tel Aviv and the Palestinian rights to independence and establishment of a national state. Anwar as-Sadat, who has betrayed the Arab peoples' cause, will continue to make concessions to the Israeli hawks. With respect to the conditions of the Egyptian-Israeli accord, As-Sadat has demonstrated greater flexibility in private talks than he has in public statements. Just a few days ago he stated that there would be no more direct talks with Israel until the Zionists return to the Arabs the West Bank of the Jordan, statements which even disturbed somewhat the Washington government in its role of mediator in the negotiations aimed at reaching a separate agreement. Nevertheless, As-Sadat will not object to meeting with Carter and Begin next month. He will attend the meeting despite the fact that Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin recently stressed that his government's position continues unchanged. The essence of that position amounts to a categoric refusal to grant freedom to the occupied Arab territories and agree to the creation of a Palestinian state. Those are the conditions under which the Camp David summit will be held.

Criticizing Washington's policy which stimulates Israel's annexationist aspirations and encourages the scission of the Arab world, the daily L'HUMANITE has pointed out that the tripartite meeting will in fact be a new phase in the road to a "solution" of the Middle East problem in accordance with the North American prescription. Those presenting themselves as promoters of peace in the Middle East are the same ones which have armed Israel to the teeth and the ones which encourage it to perpetrate continued aggression against the Arab peoples. Still fresh in our minds is the Israeli invasion of the southern part of Lebanon, which razed entire towns and resulted in the death and destruction of thousands of persons, most of them defenseless women, old people and children. As long as North American imperialism continues to provide arms to the reactionary regimes in the Middle East, to use Israel as a spearhead against the Arab peoples and to ignore the right of the Palestinian people to create a sovereign and independent state, any attempt to find a solution to the region's problems will be futile and any maneuver to sign a separate agreement with Israel would be treason against the Arab world.

BARBADOS

DELEGATION TO CUBA FESTIVAL JUDGES IT 'GREAT EXPERIENCE'

FL141620Y Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 10 Aug 78 p 1 FL

[Text] The Eleventh World Festival of Youth and Students, held in Havana, Cuba, from July 28 to August 5, has been described as "a great experience."

Mr. Ricky Parris, Secretary of the 30-man Barbados delegation to the festival, said yesterday at the Grantley Adams International Airport, shortly after disembarking from his Cubana flight, that the Barbados delegation was greeted with "warmth."

"Everywhere we went in Havana the streets were lined with Cubans and their expressions showed the great joy they had in welcoming us to their country," Mr. Parris said.

The Barbados delegation submitted papers to various commissions and Mr. Parris said that some of the papers should be reflected in the final document.

According to Mr. Parris, the first thing that struck the Barbados delegation was the freedom and discipline of the Cuban people.

"As youths we were inspired by their strength and commitment to the revolution. And, we recognise that the struggle to build socialism in Cuba cannot be turned back, but will grow from strength to strength."

Mr. Parris said the Barbados delegation was struck by the development of the country, especially since they knew it was a Caribbean country whose main economic strength was sugar.

He said it was noticeable that the level of development could only be achieved where the economy was centrally planned and the people were mobilised to achieve productive tasks.

"The 11th World Festibal of Youth and Students was a testimony of such a successful organisation," he said.

DOMINICA

OPPOSITION CONCERNED OVER PROVISION IN CONSTITUTION

FL141605Y Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 11 Aug 78 p 10 FL

[By Peter Richards]

[Text] Roseau, Dominica (CANA)--The stage has now been set for Dominica's independence from Britain on November 3, ending 400 years of British, French, and Spanish colonial rule. Only once during British ownership did the French threaten to resume control, but that ended when the armed members of a French invasion force were induced to leave the island by the payment of 12,000 pounds in 1805 by the British settlers.

Premier Patrick John, who has found support from the British for his contention that there is no need for a referendum before independence, has remarked that the decision for sovereignty this year was a blow to those people who had tried their best to retard Dominica's progress and keep its people from achieving their true identity.

The part of the independence constitution which offends the opposition is Section 56, Sub Section three, dealing with the electoral commission.

It states that the commission "shall consist of a chairman appointed by the president acting in his deliberate judgment and two members appointed by the prime minister and the leader of the opposition."

Opposition parliamentarians headed by former government Minister Michael Douglas have termed it "as a recipe for dictatorship" and they claim it was included in the constitution prior to consultation with the people as was the intention. The leader of the opposition, Mrs. Eugenia Charles, during her contribution to the constitution debate had said the offending section had been inserted and never intended to be amended.

An effort by another former government minister to get the House to discuss the constitution clause after clause was thrown out by the speaker on the ground that it had not been properly introduced into the House.

Various organisations in the island, including the Dominica Bar Association, have taken the government to task on Section 56.

The "NEW CHRONICLE" news paper, in an editorial headlined "Independence One Step Closer But...", noted that while the Caribbean people recently had to wait to see the outcome of another constitutional change in the region, namely in the South American republic of Forbes Burnham, now was the time for the people of Dominica to wake up to the reality of their own constitution.

"This is hardly the time to encourage doubts about our own constitution" it declared. The paper felt it was unfortunate that the constitution had not been tabled for clause-by-clause examination prior to final ratification.

On the other hand for the government Attorney General Leo Austin told the House the constitution was prepared with the consultation of the British Government, and independent member in the House and former Speaker, Eustace Francis, in turn stated that despite all the opposition fears of a dictatorship the constitution ensures that there would be a general election every five years.

In ex-Minister Douglas' view the British Government had in fact agreed to grant Dominica independence with the present constitution to ensure that British interests in the island were being properly looked after.

Mr Douglas referred to allegations that it was the British who had trained Ugandian leader Idi Amin, and with the help of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) of America, masterminded a coup which brought Amin to power.

He further charged that the British and the Dominica governments had discussed the constitution to ensure that Premier John remains in power.

But while the parliamentarians were busy trying to convince each other that the final constitution was either bad or good for the country, a group of Dominicans calling themselves "citizens of Dominica" and made up of the island's four major trade unions, telexed the British Government strongly protesting against what they termed the failure of the present government to consult them on provisions enlisted in the final constitution.

The powerful Dominica Amalgamated Workers Union issued its own statement, claiming the constitution was a sell-out, and also charging that it was not consulted as, a community organisation, on Section 56 of the constitution, which had been slipped into create far-reaching changes.

These protests apart the independence process started by the present government is on the move. Already a committee set up by the government to organise the celebrations had announced they will span a six-day period during which Dominicans will drown their colonial imperialism in merry-making.

"A massive publicity campaign will shortly be launched to attract thousands of visitors to the state," the committee stated.

GUYANA

CHEDDI JAGAN CALLS GOVERNMENT 'SEMIDICTATORSHIP'

FL1416102 Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 11 Aug 78 p 1 FL

[Text] Leader of the opposition in Guyana, Dr. Cheddi Jagan, has said that his country was a semi-dictatorship and was fast becoming a military dictatorship.

Dr. Jagan made these remarks at a press conference at the Windsor Hotel, yesterday. Dr. Jagan had planned to fly out of Barbados yesterday evening for St. Vincent, where he was due to give an address, but was unable to do so because of the bad weather which cancelled flights to the islands.

He said that Guyana was ruled by a 10-percent government which was being propped up by police and military bayonets.

No Support

The government "was bereft of support" and would continue to become more dictatorial as it slips in popularity.

He also commented on the controversial July 10 referendum which government claimed had a massive turnout with 97 per cent voting for the government to end all other referendums and to extend the life of parliament by 15 months.

Dr. Jagan, whose Marxist People's Progressive Party (PPP) had boycotted the poll, said that the turn out was less than 10 per cent.

He said that it was a great shame to Guyana and "it has become a bitter pill in the mouth of the Guyana people."

The government was afraid of facing the electorate and so was changing the constitution to remain in power.

Dr. Jagan also said that the PPP would continue to agitate and call for local elections, which were postponed twice so far this year.

The government, which was in severe economic straits, had to go to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for assistance and as a result had to remove all subsidies.

The most recent was on sugar and there are numerous shortages and long queues for foodstuffs.

Taxation was also at its highest and more pressure was being placed on the people, especially by the army which was suppressing the people. Democracy in Guyana was a facade, with the government waging war on the people, he said.

SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

DAILY REPORT volumes are published Monday through Friday in both paper version (mailed daily) and microfiche version (mailed weekly). The annual subscription fee for the paper version within the United States, Canada, and Mexico is $150 for any one volume and $50 for each additional volume. This includes occasional supplements. In microfiche the fee is $100 for any one volume, $125 for two volumes, $150 for three, $200 for four, $250 for five, $300 for six, $350 for seven, and $400 for all eight volumes. Foreign subscriptions outside North America are available from appointed foreign dealers or from NTIS. For information contact NTIS. U.S. government officials may obtain subscriptions at no charge directly from FBIS. Phone 527-2368 (area code 703) or write P.O. Box 2604, Washington, D.C. 20013.

The volumes are: I - People's Republic of China; II - Eastern Europe; III - Soviet Union; IV - Asia & Pacific; V - Middle East & North Africa; VI - Latin America; VII - Western Europe; VIII - Sub-Saharan Africa. Back issues or single copies are not available. Allow 30 days for processing new subscriptions. Mail remittances, inquiries, and address changes to the NTIS address below.

Note: The publications of the Joint Publications Research Service (JPRS), which are sometimes cited in the DAILY REPORT, can also be ordered from NTIS in single copies or by subscription. In ordering, please cite the JPRS title, number, date and author if applicable.

Both the DAILY REPORT and JPRS publications are on file for public reference at the Library of Congress and at public and university libraries throughout the United States.

NTIS

National Technical Information Service
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Springfield, Virginia 22151

90
50